

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE.

SKETCHES
OF
LEGISLATORS
AND
STATE OFFICERS

1876-1878.

BY JOHN CARDWELL.

AUSTIN, TEXAS:
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1876.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Counties. — Houston, Angelina, Nacogdoches, San Augustine and Sabine.

SENATOR PEYTON F. EDWARDS was born in the Republic of Texas, and is now thirty-one years of age. He is a married man, and lives in the town of Nacogdoches, where he was born and has been reared. He is a lawyer, and gives promise of making quite a name, both in his profession and in politics. He is a good speaker, a man of quick perception, and bold in the discharge of his duty—qualities which in his station are calculated to develop men of note. Up to the present time Mr. Edwards has been a devotee to his profession, for the practice of which he had a most excellent basis of training. He was a law student at the University of Virginia, under Prof. Minor, and the rest of its distinguished corps, and graduated with the degree of B. L. from that institution in 1867, an honor within itself sufficient to entitle him to immediate advancement in his profession. He belongs to some of the oldest of Texan families, being a grandson of Heyden Edwards, who was empresario, at Nacogdoches, in 1824; also of John Forbes, commissary

general of Houston's army at San Jacinto. His father, Harden H. Edwards, was a public man and a leading member of the Secession Convention of Texas. Mr. Edwards was never, before his late election to the State Senate, in public life. He has always been a Democrat, believes in home rule and hard money, and was elected on the Democratic ticket. He belongs to Judiciary Committee No. 1, to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, to that on Internal Improvements, and is Chairman of the Committee on Private Land Claims.

In person, Mr. Edwards is more than of the ordinary height, but spare; has light complexion, and an earnest, thoughtful expression.